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THE BURMA NEWS

FEBRUARY, 1932

FROM THE AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONS IN BURMA AND ASSAM

MAP OF BURMA MISSION
India
Assam
China
Myitkyina.
Bhamo.
Meng Meng
Namkham.
Tiddim
Bana
Haka
Maymyo.
Sagaing.
Mandalay.
Loi Lem.
Kengtung.
Mingayan.
Meiktila.
Taunggyi.
Mongnai
Kalew.
Loikaw.
Pyinmana.
Thayetmyo.
Toungoo.
Prome.
Sandoway.
Nyaunglebin.
Shwegyin.
Zigon.
Thonze.
Thawaddy.
Pegu.
Henzada.
Maubin.
Insein.
Rangoon.
Bassein.
Moulmein
Pyapon.
Bay of Bengal
Siam
Tavoy.

THE

BURMA NEWS

H. W. SMITH, *Editor.*

Published on the 5th of each month at the American Baptist Mission Press, Rangoon, Burma.
Subscription Rates: Single Copy with postage, Rs. 2/6, $0.75
Subscriptions in the U. S. may be sent to Geo. B. Huntington, Esq., 152 Madison Ave., New York.

ol. XLV Rangoon, Burma, February, 1932. No. 2

The Kachins—A Golden Opportunity

If Adoniram Judson in his days of eed sowing could say " The prospects re as bright as the promises of God " . ien we of the Kachin mission can ay that God has most wonderfully ulfilled his promises, for never in the istory of the Kachin mission has the eld been so ready for the reapers.

It has not always been so. Even ie Kachin mission has had its storm and stress period." Mr. lbert Lyon was called to rest six eeks after landing in Bhamo. In ecember 1878 Dr. W. H. Roberts nded in Bhamo with Mrs. Roberts id their young daughter, now Mrs. ummings of Henzada. Unsanitary onditions together with much travel rought on attacks of fever, so that ie medical adviser of the China nland Mission who at that time lived Bhamo said they must leave hamo, if they did not wish to be uried along side of Mr. Lyon.

Malaria poison had gotten such a old on Mrs. Roberts that she passed way in Rangoon and before Dr. oberts had sailed for America he eceived word that his house with all s earthly goods had been burned to ie ground. With restored health owever, he returned to Bhamo until s faith in the promises of God was ice more put to the test.

In 1886 king Thebaw was dethron-l. In that year the missionaries re-rned again to their work, soon to be inforced by the Hansons in 1890 id the Geises in 1892. Of course there were other missionaries who from time to time joined the mission, but were either transferred to other work or returned to America.

Government was greatly in need of educated Kachins in the lower grades of government service, hence a continuous running stream of pupils from our fifty odd schools found renumerative employment and places of great influence. Chiefs who had held themselves aloof and looked upon this religious movement as something foreign, found themselves confronted by our converts in many walks of life. At court these commoners acted as interpreters, in the mountains some were petty judges, when crimes were committed our boys in the civil police did the arresting and at night those in military service did sentry duty at jails and prisons. In time these boys were advanced to jemedars and subadar majors in the regular Indian army. Their bravery in action was rewarded with coveted honors and several were even invited to act as honorary body guards to His Majesty King Emperor George V.

Some of the girls became nurses in government hospitals, boys became teachers and preachers, others traders and petty contractors, the vast majority returned to their homes to become a leaven in their community. These Kachins like Christians in the early Roman Empire took their Christianity with them. Around

the open fire in Kachin houses these converts testified of saving grace.

All this silent sowing and growth culminated in the Jubilee Convention held in Bhamo in 1927 when Kachins numbering seven thousand came from as far north as the foothills of Tibet and as far south as Lashio. It was the great event of the year in Upper Burma. No police were needed to keep order. Gambling and drunkenness were absent. Instead these former wild tribes from the mountains met daily in song and prayer planning to extend the blessings they had received to their brethren in regions beyond.

Is there any wonder with such a history the field is ripe unto the harvest? There was a time when the Baptists thought they could do the reaping all by themselves. But as the demands on the three respective fields became increasingly greater and more urgent, the fond thought of ever linking up our Kachin mission with our mission in Assam thru the Hukong valley which we explored in 1906 had to be abandoned and turned over to those who could occupy this field.

In the Myitkyina field the past few years four thousand slaves in the "Triangle" were released. These are knocking at our door. The little group of believers 250 miles north of Myitkyina have for months been expecting their missionary to come and assist them in dedicating their chapel; 150 miles north east a few years ago an association was organized, from different parts of the field urgent calls come; just when the missionary is about to answer some, fever lays him low and the best medical advice orders him to America.

On the Bhamo field the missionary has been carrying a double load, so that he could not keep in touch with the growing work. A few days ago a worker reported a movement towards Christianity just over the border in China adjoining his field where 160 families of Kachins have broken down demon altars and in their primative way call on the living God. When finally relief arrives the missionary's furlough is due and he with his family are ordered home to build up lost strength.

On the Namhkam field the missionary is out touring during all the open season and finds in many parts of the field men and women ready to follow the Lord in baptism. A short time ago a chief who rules over a number of villages made an open confession of Christ. Think what this will mean a hundred years hence!

In the three Burma regiments many of the native officers are Christians. In the 1/20 Burma Rifles all the officers are very active Christians and they have a live chaplain. Monthly the flower of Kachin manhood who come under the influence of these officers are led to accept the Lord Jesus, these men in turn return to their mountain homes to kindle fires where the missionary may have no time to visit. In the early days the missionaries would gladly have answered such calls in the middle of the rains; to-day these calls are so numerous he can no longer answer them. For this reason the Kachin convention in 1930 voted to open a Bible school to prepare their young people for this special need.

We are at a very critical period in the Kachin mission. The time to strike the iron is now; grain left standing will soon be beaten down by wind and rain. Shall those who have plowed the fields have labored in vain? Shall we leave to others the joy of reaping after an expenditure of so much money and many precious lives? Can we in justice keep others out of this field if we do not do the reaping? We need at least two families at once. Four years ago this need was felt, the Committee of Reference placed Sumprabum on the list of one of our first needs. Since then it has been buried in the files. Let us act before it is too late!

Geo. J. Geis

The Kachin Work—Its Urgency

We are extremely reluctant to leave Myitkyina field this year. There are many reasons why we wish to remain on at least one year more. But the doctors have agreed that one year away from a malarious field will be necessary. I leave with hopes of someone carrying on the work during our furlough. We pray that the way may be opened to take advantage of the great wide open door far up north among the Kachin people. May I mention just a few of the things that stand out in my mind at this time.

While still in the hospital two telegrams came from far up north of Myitkyina. One from the preacher at Naunghkai, the other from the teacher. "Nang galoi du na kun?" When will you arrive was the question. The other said they were waiting for my arrival before dedicating the new school building. Last year I was prevented from going because no transport was available. This year the malaria prevented my going. I was very, very sorry to write telling them I could not come this year. A strong, virile race of people, the Lungs, are up there, far north of Putao. Six boys from this territory are in the Myitkyina school. They are the outstanding boys, doing the best work. They are obedient, willing and anxious to learn. Three of this group of six are waiting for baptism. The Karen preacher, Thra Sein Nyoh, reaches their villages but once or twice a year. When there was talk of moving Thra Sein Nyoh from Naunghkai to Sumprabum many elders wrote, asking that their preacher be allowed to stay. The headman of a village with many of his villagers recently threw away their nat altars.

For years we have hoped and prayed that someone might go to Sumprabum. This place is close to the Triangle (a large territory bounded by two large rivers, the Nmai Hka and the Mali Hka). Years ago it was voted to open a new mission station there but as yet no station has been opened. Government has released many slaves in this territory. Last year I visited a village and threw away the nat altars from six households. Some of these people were released slaves. They had moved to the south, come in contact with Christian people and in turn wanted to become Christians themselves. Two expeditions are sent yearly to this territory, opening up the country. To the west in the Hukawng, the B. C. M. S. have taken advantage of the opportunity and opened work there. Are we going to leave the people in the Triangle with nothing to replace the thrown away nat altars? If we do not give them the gospel our Kachin Christian leaders are afraid these other Kachins will turn to Buddhism and then the way to reach them will be practically closed. Thousands are ready for the gospel. Are we going to continue to turn deaf ears to their pleas? When they ask for bread are we going to give them stones?

Two boys from the Myitkyina Christian Endeavour Society went to a Kachin village. The people were over-joyed to have someone come and teach them. The villagers told how they were trying to live good Christian lives. They told how ignorant they were and begged the boys to come back again and teach them more of the gospel.

A head cooly wrote to me, and asked that I come to his village. Twenty people wished to be baptized. They had no teacher or preacher but were meeting weekly for prayer and praise.

A teacher wrote in asking that I come to his school as five children were asking for baptism. It is

seventy miles from Myitkyina. Thra Ba Thaw is going to them this week. Twice I had been to this village. The first time the people were unresponsive (only one household was Christian). The second time they filled the school building and were much more interested. They are waiting for a leader who will take the initiative and they will all throw away their nat altars. Now these children are leading the way.

Another village sends word that for two years they have been collecting paddy hoping some day we might be able to send them a preacher. They will support him but they want someone who will teach them how to be released from the fear of the nats.

My muleteer has begged me for months to go across the border to his people's village. For years they have been asking for a preacher. His people are Lashi, different from the regular Jinghpaw Kachin. In March the Association is to be held at Sadom, in the midst of these people.

To the south, at Graugra, the Du Wa had asked and asked for someone to teach them. A large tract of villages was ready to throw away their nat altars. If we could send someone they would feed and clothe him. A former school teacher we sent to them a few months ago.

Other instances of doors of opportunity could be mentioned but we must close this account. Are we going to leave this large field without a resident missionary? Over 200 miles to the North and then far above Putao; 200 miles to the North-east at Htawgaw and Hpimaw; 50 miles to the East at Sadon and then across the China border for miles in a Lisu field left to us by the C. I. M.; 50 miles to the South-east at Sima; 70 miles to the South at Namun and Loiseng. A large territory presided over by a Deputy Commissioner and six Assistant Superintendents. Only one missionary family to take advantage of this call. "Pray the Lord of the harvest, the field is white, the laborers few:"

Le Roy Dudrow

Chinese Work

The first day of January found the missionary in Myingyan for the solemnization of a Chinese Christian Wedding. The groom is a new convert and teaches in the Burma Oil Company's School at Kyauk. The bride is an earnest Christian girl, the daughter of a very successful merchant in Myingyan and the granddaughter of a former Bible Woman in China. The grandmother is now one of the active members of the Myingyan Chinese Baptist church.

The Mandalay Chinese group had a very slight revival of life at Christmas time, but there is little of the old enthusiasm of former times here. This is due doubtless to four things: 1. The missionary in charge does not have time to lavish on them and our Chinese variety only do well with constant attention; 2. The migratory nature of the Chinese has sadly depleted their numbers; 3. The teacher at Mandalay simply cannot preach and is not of a social personality, and 4. The missionary does not know any Chinese. A young Anglo Indian by the name of Aaron, who knows Burmese well and who is an earnest Christian is a real help there but unfortunately he does not know Chinese. I went over and served communion one Sunday night recently in English, Mr. Aaron repeated it Burmese and the teacher put it into Chinese. I would like to have been able to understand what the Chinese teacher said for he understands very little Burmese and less English. But there is yet life there and hence we continue to hope.

H. E. Hinton

Gordon Stifler Seagrave, Jr.

Gordon Stifler Seagrave, Junior, was born in Namhkam on New Year's Day, 1923. Throughout his life, his was a bright and happy spirit. During the month that we had the privilege of having him with us in Rangoon, he went everywhere with me, and I was impressed many times by the way he made friends with all with whom he came in contact. His shy friendly smile attracted everyone. At home, he was most generous and a leader in everything. During the last few months he has been most kind to Weston who has never had such a good time in his life as since Gordon returned from Taunggyi. If Jesus had been on the compound we know that He would have loved him for his goodness and gentleness. We know he is now safe in His arms.

His love of singing was remarkable. He began to sing when only a year and a half old, carrying not only the tune, but the words as well. We recollect especially "Twinkle, twinkle, little star" and "Hallelujah, Thine the Glory," both in English and in Karen. Some of his favourites were, 'Saviour, like a Shepherd, lead us," and "I'm praying for you."

He was much impressed by the Burma Medical School, and once confided to me that he was going there to learn to be a doctor like daddy.'

A telegram just received gives only a few details of the accident. "Boys playing on raft strong and stable. Junior fell off, swam awhile, was rescued in three minutes. Gordon worked four hours."

The service at the grave was led by Mr. Sword. The little casket was made of rosewood covered and lined with silk. The nurses sang two of his specially loved hymns, "Saviour like a Shepherd lead us," and "Shall we gather at the river?" The Shans were surprisingly tactful and kind, and everybody brought wild flowers which were all they had.

"The Lord hath given and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Rachel Seagrave.

GORDON STIFLER SEAGRAVE, JR.

I want to write just a few words of tribute to the dear little lad whom God has seen fit to call across the Border. We all loved him and are grieved at heart because we shall so miss the gentle face and genial smile of young Gordon Seagrave when the children return to the American School at the end of this month. He was manliness

personified and yet so affectionate. I can never forget the meeting between brother and sister when Gordon returned from Rangoon in September. Leslie was watching to see whether the Henderson car had brought him and as he rounded the corner of our house, laden with wraps and shoulder house, she flew down the path to meet him and carry his things. The School children followed and all united in a glad welcome. Another thing I shall never forget is that he hardly ever passed our house but that there was a low whistle in case "Joe" (our dog) should hear and respond and when he did Gordon would reward him with a smile and a pat and pass on. It is difficult to think of the school without him but we are the richer for happy memories of the manly lad. Even Potiah, (my cook) said "everybody loving that boy." Our hearts go out constantly in tender sympathy to all members of the family so greatly bereaved. Did Mr. Seagrave greet his loved little Grandson so suddenly transferred to the Other Side? If we could only lift the veil for a moment how much easier it would be to let them pass on into the Larger Life, those whom we love so well.

Elizabeth M. Heptonstall.

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Committee on Program and Policy

The new "P. and P." Committee has had its first meeting and because of the comments from the Conference floor on the report of its predecessor, approached its task with fear and trembling. Since this Committee is about twice the size of the former committee, we shall have that many more to absorb the arrows which may be hurled at our heads.

We are proceeding along the lines of President Hoover's policy—that is, we have appointed sub-committees to "get the facts" and bring in their findings at the next meeting which will be in March 25th.

The following is the list of committees, with the general outline of their terms of reference:—

I. *Committee on the Indigenous Church*
   - *a.* Making the Burman Church indigenous in its life, service and worship
   - *b.* Our youth, and its relation to the church; making better use of youth and providing for it a larger life within the church
   - *c.* Improved methods of Evangelism.

   Chairman of Committee—U Shwe Hman.

II. *Committee on Social and Economic Life*
   - *a.* Rural Reconstruction Units
   - *b.* Community Centres in Urban areas.
   - *c.* Improving the Economic Condition of the Christian Community

   Chairman of Committee—Mr. Andrus.

III. *Committee on Anglo-Vernacular Education.*
   - *a.* Grants-in-Aid
   - *b.* Possibilities of educational work in new directions
   - *c.* Schools as centres of evangelism and religious instruction.

   Chairman of Committee—Mr. Hinton.

IV. *Committee on Vernacular Education*
   - *a.* Possibilities of educational work in new directions
   - *b.* Schools as centres of evangelism and religious instruction
   - *c.* Vernacular school work among hill peoples.

   Chairman of Committee—Miss Adams.

V. *Committee on Training of Workers*
   - *a.* Religious
   - *b.* Social
   - *c.* Economic

   Chairman of Committee—Mr. Josif

The Chairman of any of the above committees will be most grateful for any information or suggestions regarding the topics mentioned. We need the hearty cooperation of the whole Mission in order that this Committee may make a report which shall be of value.

L. P. Bonney,
Secretary.

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The new birth has disqualified us for contentment with the world, hence we have no choice but to find our all in Christ. Blessed necessity!

Judson College

As January ends a folder is being prepared with two pictures. The first shows the exterior of the completed Chapel from a very fine recent drawing of the Architect. The second is from a photograph of the walls as just taken and shows how far the Contractor has advanced with the work. A statement has been prepared to show how the Fund now stands, and what is needed.

A number of churches have agreed to give special collections to the Fund soon. Some entertainments are to be held to raise money for the Fund. We need the most loyal support of all our friends. Will you commend it heartily to all about you, remembering specially old students of the College and members and friends of the Churches. If you are not supplied with enough folders please send for more. But please press the claims of the Fund upon all who can help at this critical juncture.

Wallace St. John.

Report of Chapel Fund for the period ending Jan. 31, 1932

Amount contributed by Mr. Rockefeller $35,000.00.

Conditional pledge of Mr. Rockefeller $15,000.00.

	Amount Pledged. Rs.	A.	P.
Missionaries	30,585	13	0
Old Students	22,125	0	0
Churches, etc.	54,927	3	7
Total	1,07,638	0	7

	Amount Paid. Rs.	A.	P.
Missionaries	30,274	15	0
Old Students	14,742	12	3
Churches, etc.	52,166	14	7
Total	97,184	9	10
Total Expenditure to January 31, 1932	82,128	2	6
Net Credit Balance on January 31, 1932	15,056	7	4

	Rs.	A.	P.
Rangoon-Pyapon Burman Churches	4,697	11	9
Judson College (Entertainments, etc.)	3,432	2	9
Rangoon Karen Churches	3,764	4	3
Rangoon English Baptist Ch.	1,211	0	0
Cushing High School	170	0	0
Immanuel Baptist Church	1,575	10	0
Bassein Pwo Karen	733	0	0
Bassein Sgaw Karen Churches	5,876	2	0
Bassein-Myaungmya, Burman	365	14	0
Moulmein Burman Churches	2,620	3	0
Moulmein English Baptist Ch.	632	1	6
Moulmein Talaing	105	0	0
Moulmein Karen Churches	523	12	0
Henzada Karen Churches	3,623	5	0
Henzada Burman Churches	1,497	2	6
Toungoo Paku Karen Ch.	1,094	6	0
Toungoo Bwe Paren Ch.	763	9	3
Toungoo Burman	204	0	0
Mandalay	887	0	0
Tharrawaddy Karen Churches	1,133	10	6
Maymyo Baptist Church	1,415	8	9
Meiktila	983	14	6
Shwegyin Karen Churches	1,054	9	0
Pyinmana	545	15	6
Taunggyi	979	14	3
Loikaw Karen Churches	418	11	6
Sandoway Churches	534	13	6
Papun Karen Churches	131	0	0
Prome	354	8	3
Mongnai	57	0	0
Myitkyina	358	14	0
Bhamo Churches	284	15	3
Namkham	413	5	0
Lashio Trinity Church	60	0	0
Loilem	36	0	0
Kengtung	15	0	0
Sagaing	199	0	0
Nyaunglebin Karen Churches	175	7	3
Indian Work Mergui	10	0	0
Kalaw Christians	12	0	0
Myingyan	250	0	0
Maubin Pwo Karen Churches	369	8	0
Tavoy Karen Churches	59	4	0
Thonze	149	0	0
Thaton	23	0	0
Loimwe	6	0	0
Collections at Convention	101	2	6
Tamil Bap. Church, Rangoon	75	0	0
Thayetmyo	113	0	0
Friends	2,470	0	0
Interests	5,600	8	10
Total	52,166	14	7

Respectfully submitted,
Mya Pon,
Treasurer, Judson College,
January 31, 1932. *Rangoon.*

Burman Mission News

Sagaing

The main item of interest at Sagaing is the new Sutherland Memorial Church for which the ground has been broken and before this note is printed the foundations will have been laid. We expect to have a corner stone of Mandalay marble inscribed, "The Sutherland Memorial Baptist Church—1932." Plans are under way for the Corner Stone Laying ceremony on or about the 12th of February. We hope to finish the building, so as to have a dedication service on the 20th of March.

Reports have just come in that the church at Katha has been divided, the Karens withdrawing and forming a church of their own. There are enough Karens to do this, but since there are very few Burmese Christians there and since the Karens all know Burmese I had hoped they would continue to worship together. It may not prove to be a permanent separation, but the incident shows the need of a missionary giving his full time to that great field.

H. E. Hinton.

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Pegu

Christmas events are rather late for February, but perhaps better then than not at all. Our Christians in Pegu, led by our fine pastor, Saya Tha Aung, carried through a good program, which kept Christmas in the air for several days. As a basis of operations, they collected between forty and fifty rupees.

On the 19th of December quite a large group went to Kali, three miles away, where we have been exerting ourselves for some time, and carried out a program of games and stunts. Then the Great Gift of Christmas was explained, after which the Sunday School children were given gifts of jackets, towels, etc., and the crowd treated to sweets.

The next evening, Sunday, two of our town Sunday Schools were combined (with the aid of my brother's car) at the M. C. Parish home, where one of these two schools meets every Sunday morning. The house was crowded, and folks hanging round the edges, as they listened to a playlet, reproducing the story of Lazarus and the Rich Man. Here also, gifts were given to the children and sweets to all.

On the morning of the 24th, about sixty beggars, or extremely poor people not in the professional beggar class, were gathered in from the streets and given breakfast, then preached to. The Church had its own service and tree on the evening of the same day.

The above program was not even suggested by the missionaries. It was planned and carried out by Saya Tha Aung and the people. All we did was to co-operate and boost.

Mary L. Parish

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Kalaw

January is to us a month of anniversaries. Fifty years ago my brother Mr. F. D. Phinney ,left home for the first time to come out to the Mission Press. Forty-seven years ago Miss Ranney arrived in Burma for her first term of service, and forty-six years ago I arrived. Goodness and mercy have followed us all the years. Of the missionaries then in Burma none remain out here except Mrs. Mix and Miss Whitehead, whose arrival came between ours. Dr. Eveleth, Dr. Nichols, Miss McAllister, and several widows of missionaries, are still living in America. There were in Burma at that time, of Dr. Judson's co-workers, the Bennetts, Braytons and the

elder Stevens, and of those who knew him as children, Mrs. D. A. W. Smith, Mrs. Rose, Mrs. Vinton and Miss Haswell. This January will add an anniversary,—this time a very sad one, —the final departure from Kalaw of our very good friends, the Tilbes. The coming hot season we shall greatly miss, not only them, but the Cummings, the Harrises and the Nichols, from our Kalaw circle.

My elder brother began numbering the weekly home letters when Frank first left for Burma, and the one received last mail, January 16th, was numbered 2,500! Of all these not more than one or two have been lost, and that in war time. Can anyone show a better record of faithfulness in writing and safety in transit?

Harriet Phinney.

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Thonze

We have had a month of Prayer meetings to begin the year with. They were larger and more generally attended than usual. For the first week we followed the regular topics, but for the rest of the time, the pastor has taken up topics with a view of helping to establish the new converts in the faith. Much good has been done in teaching them "Whatsoever things I have commanded you."

We have had an epidemic of plague, and most of us were inoculated, but one of our stand-bys, a Chinese Christian, Ah Pu Shoke was taken with it and died in a few days. He was a wonderful Christian. Happy as the day was long in his work as a carpenter, and the best carpenter I ever had. Worked for me for nearly twenty-five years. I was never anxious about the work when I had him on the job. He was more careful and harder to please than I was. We miss him so much, not only as a carpenter, but as a Christian Brother and friend.

We have been trying to consolidate our work this month. We have baptized only thirteen, the smallest number since July. But others are coming and we will have an ingathering next month. It is fine to see the new Christians coming to church more regularly than even the older ones in the faith.

The bungalow is growing from day to day. The walls are up to the top of the doors and windows all round. Next week we will be up to the second floor.

Have not had enough visitors this month. Mr. Chaney called on us, and the Josif family stopped on their way to and from Prome and Thayetmyo. We got out our small table and high chair and it seemed like old times to have children around again. The roads are fairly good and safe in the day time at least. Drive up.

J. T. Latta.

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Mandalay

"Christmas," "The Meetings of the Aungbinle Association," and the "Universal Week of Prayer" are the high points of interest of the last two months in Judson Memorial Church, Mandalay. During the months of November and December the pastor took for his prayer meeting topics the series suggested in the Burma for Christ Bulletin U.B.B. Special No. 4 entitled, "How to Succeed in the Christian Life." The attendance was the best we have had for a long time and one heard again and again remarks of favour and encouragement. There was a noticable spiritual atmosphere and all of us felt that it was good to be there.

U Ba Hlaing has been elected chairman of the Church and we hope for a new era at Judson Memorial Church. Pray that God's Kingdom may be more fully realized in Mandalay.

H. E. Hinton.

Bwe Karen Mission

This afternoon at four o'clock instead of the usual afternoon service we had a beautiful baptismal service at the riverside. A large crowd of church members, school children and friends witnessed the baptizing of 18 boys and girls. All but three of the nine boys and nine girls are pupils in the school here. As I saw one girl go down to the water, I couldn't help but contrast her now with what she was four years ago when she was brought down from the hills, an orphan, without fees and without clothes, but with a great desire to attend school. She has done well and I was happy to see her witness for Christ to-day.

1932 has started out very joyfully for us and the first good news came on New Year's Day when we received word that even though there are "too many schools in Toungoo" our Bwe Karen School is not to be sacrificed for the sake of retrenchment. Time was when perhaps one Karen school would have sufficed for Toungoo but that time is past. Our vigorous protests and our earnest prayers have caused the Education Department to reconsider their proposal. However we cannot swing the salaries of the Technical teachers without the Results Grants and our Technical Department will have to be suspended temporarily.

We are looking forward to the coming of Thra James Tapa, M. A. who is to join us soon and begin his work here. Much interest is being shown by the people here in plans for financing the school and the enterprise should be a great success. Pray that God will richly bless this school and the work here.

Dacoits have been causing much trouble on the West Side and have interfered with the work there. Several Karens have been killed there —two of our Christians. One of the villages I visited last Christmas has been deserted because of the frequent visits of the dacoits. In the Brec country the Catholics have entered several of our villages and a group of Seminary boys led by our pastor plan to go there soon to strengthen our Christians.

It has been such a joy and a blessing to work with Miss Ragon this year. She has been a wonderful help in the school and has made such a place for herself in the hearts of the people that they do not want to give her up to Sagaing or Sandoway.

Another great joy has been having mother here with me. She already loves Burma, especially Rangoon, Toungoo, Mandalay, Maymyo and Taunggyi—which is all she has seen so far—and she has very definitely settled the Maymyo—Kalaw—Taunggyi question!!

Grace A. Maine.

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One look upon the face of Jesus Christ will rivet your attention to Him or it will cause you to hide your face from Him.

Does your life give light or does it cast a shadow?

Some people enjoy being trusted, but hate to trust others.

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Dr. John E. MacNeill in Burma

On the 17th of November the President of the Baptist World Alliance arrived in our Burma Mission, spending a week in this historic field. In his position as the official fraternal head of world Baptists, Dr. MacNeill brought to us all both an inspiration and a challenge.

In him we have one who combines the friendliness of a brother, the logical mind of a teacher and the inspiring vision of a preacher or prophet. It was inevitable that the week in the land of Judson would be one jammed full of travel, visiting, preaching and rushing to make appointments.

The MacNeills arrived on Tuesday morning December 17, left Wednes-

lay afternoon for Bassein where is our largest and most outstanding piece of work; left Bassein Friday noon for Rangoon; lunched with His Excellency the Governor and Lady Innes Satudray; preached three times Sunday—once to the student body of Judson college, once to a mass meeting of 1200 local Baptists assembled in Vinton Memorial Hall, and once to a packed house in Immanuel Church, Sunday night he left by train for the historic city of Moulmein, arriving Monday morning ready for a rushed day visiting the various mission stations and work there. He addressed one mass meeting in the afternoon. Monday evening he left for Rangoon, arriving Tuesday morning in time to catch his boat for Calcutta.

While in Rangoon the MacNeills were entertained in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Gordon Jury. The Field Secretary, escorted the MacNeills to Bassein and Moulmein; and were guests with them at Government House. Sir Charles and Lady Innes are examples of that fine Christian culture and broad interest found in the best traditions of the India Civil Service.

Dr. St. John, Principal of Judson College, held a tea for Dr. MacNeill at which the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Rangoon, Sir Benjamin Heald was a guest, in order that Dr. MacNeill might meet some of the University authorities.

We shall not soon forget the splendid messages which Dr. Mac Neill delivered on several occasions. It was very appropriate that he should address the Sunday afternoon mass meeting on the topic, The Baptist World Alliance. I think very few of us realized the growth and progress of world Baptists which now sets that group in the forefront as the largest single group of protestant Christians. This address was particularly fitting because the Burma Baptist Convention of indigenous churches, assembled in Bassein about a month before the arrival of Dr. MacNeill, had voted to become affiliated actively with the Alliance. Again his address before Judson College Church, on Hebrews 2:11, "For which cause he is not ashamed to call them brethren," was a realistic rather than theological probing into the deep things of life. On Sunday evening Dr. MacNeill was the speaker at Immanuel Baptist Church. Here again he rose to the occasion with an address on "The lost coin, the lost sheep, and the lost boy."

There were also many experiences in Burma which Dr. and Mrs. Mac Neill will never forget. They will never forget the afternoon at the Seminaries at Insein, in which as lovers of good music they were carried away by the harmony and volume of the student body in the song service. Then again at Bassein the combined Missions put on an evening programme in the Ko Tha Byu Memorial Hall. Band, orchestra, vocal and instrumental numbers (piano and pipe organ) amazed them by their range and quality. Here was a people just two and three generations out of darkness, displaying a culture and ability of high order. Moulmein also with its many units of work and great schools added to the growing sense of how large a work Baptists have in Burma, and of what a high order it is. Though last to be mentioned, but by no means least in importance, was Judson College in its magnificent new equipment as a unit of the University of Rangoon.

As Dr. and Mrs. MacNeill continue their journey westward, they bear the greetings of Burma Baptists to other world groups of Baptists. Also many of us follow them with our thanks unto God for their fraternal visit and our prayer for their protection from harm and their continued usefulness and blessing to others they meet on the way.

Field Secretary.

Chin Mission

Sandoway

For climate even California—cannot boast a more refreshing spot. At chota-time, we register 54 at 7:30, inside, and the boarders "back up to the sun, to thaw out," before entering the halls of learning. We have two months of "hill" climate, almost at sea-level. Even the mosquitoes come here for the cool season and thrive. They make little noise and are not always seen, but they certainly make themselves felt. No one escapes, and "malaria" is our "specialty" in this town. We had a new malady in VIIth Standard recently—the sufferer being a Burmese boy, who had a "relapse" on his back, and it had to be "cut." We are glad to report his safe recovery ! !

Of our 92 pupils now on the roll, nearly all are in Bible classes, and of the eighteen, whose parents first asked exemption, some begged so hard that permission was granted after a week or so. Even the parents wish their children "exposed" to Bible teaching, for it seems to affect their conduct in a pleasing way, and encourages us to do our best in meeting their needs.

We are a happy mixture of five races, made up in the following proportions; 54% from Christian homes, 26% from Mohamedan and 20% from Buddhist homes. Our fine Christmas program was well given by pupils from five races. The spirit of Christmas took eight of our VIIth boys on a Gospel team, led by Saya Kha, to three Villages, one being the Burmese village of Kyiganye, where Mr. and Mrs. Day made their sudden and eventful landing last September." It seems to have opened the place to the Gospel. Saya Kha has written the story of this visit, which promises to lead to more, in the future.

Nellie E. Lucas.

After a long silence Sandoway breaks into print again. With the station missionary unavoidably off the job more responsibility has had to be assumed by the preachers and teachers. Let me quote from a report of Samo Kha on the work he has been doing in the past few weeks. The village of Kyiganye which he mentions has had a notorious record for crime so we hope that this is the beginning of better things for it.

Before the Christmas holidays there came to me four invitations asking my help from the teachers of the villages lying outside of Sandoway. It took me a week to reach them and spend one night in each. So they could not have their Christmas exercises on the 25th of December but on the following days.

In the village called Kyeganye two Burman ladies are conducting a school. The villagers were all Buddhists and domiciled Mohammedans but the teachers are Christians. They have tried their best to gain the love of the villagers in the right way. They gave their children Christmas presents and taught them some songs and Bible passages. The following morning we drew the same large crowd to the bank of a stream where we had two baptisms.

Then I made my way to the Chin villages. There I found three village schools that had joined together and worked out an inspiring Christmas program. Of the last two villages one was opened two years ago with the good result of one convert last year and now one is waiting for baptism. The work of the last village is of one year's standing. During our campaign last year the request of the villagers was answered by a girl of the group. In that village many came forward and admitted that Christianity is better than their own religion. But they told me they wanted to see the Christians in their religious gatherings—in their prayer meetings, preaching services and association. I should say they are considering the matter carefully for they do not want to depend entirely on our teachings but want to feel sure Christ is really with us. A line of a song, "Can others see Jesus in me?" came to my mind. We need no more be formal Christians. People want to see right now the Christ of our experience.

I came home feeling that I still need prayers and devotions. F. R. Bruce

Assam News

I attended Iowa Baptist Convention at Boone and Kansas Baptist Convention at Manhattan. Eight hundred delegates were at one and four hundred at the other.

Of late I have put in some time with Swedish Baptist churches in St. Paul, Minnesota. There sure are a host of Swedish Baptist churches in Minnesota and all seem to use the English language now. They are a spiritual people who know the Lord and love Him, and expect to do what He says. Therefore, when they read in the Bible that we should go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature they set about raising the money for sending missionaries. Through arrangements with our Board they are taking over what they call the "North Strip of Assam." So much of all this as lies on the north side of the Brahmaputra river, also tribes in the mountains to the north of Assam.

After a week in St. Paul I came back to Iowa for winter was coming on and I don't like to be too much pinched with the cold. I could tell them, however, a lot about the North Bank in Assam, because I had lived there thirty-six years. And the Danielson family had me in their house for a week and all the Swedish Baptists in St. Paul were charming. I met some mothers, sisters, cousins and so forth of our missionaries who are in Assam now. It is a great life, this.

John Firth.

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The Annual Conference of the Assam Mission met in Jorhat, Dec. 2–8 inclusive. There was a fine spirit among the missionaries and the papers and discussions reached a high level of ability and helpfulness.

New Missionaries introduced were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cook and Jimmie, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Davis and Dr. W. R. Werelius. Dr. and Mrs. A. J. Ahlquist and family returned from furlough.

The theme of the Devotional services was "Spiritual Interpretations." Many helpful and inspiring messages were brought to us as missionaries. The subject of the Conference discussion was "Literature." Out of the splendid papers by Missionaries and Indian Leaders a great deal of discussion came. It is hoped from this work, that a system of syndicated secular and religious literature which can be used in all the language areas will be evolved.

Rev. S. A. D. Boggs, for forty years a missionary in Assam, retires this year. His address "Lights and Shadows" closed the Conference. All honor is due this veteran in the work for he has wrought well and loved much.

The weather was delightful and the quality of entertainment given by the Jorhat Missionaries was excellent. The Conference, from all points of view, was considered one of the very best held for a great number of years.

The day after Conference closed, the members of the Laymen's Foreign Missions Enquiry Commission arrived. Many Missionaries stayed over to meet them. The members of the Commission present were: Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Betts, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Merrill, D.D., Mr. and Mrs. Henry Houghton, M.D. and Mr. Ward Madison, secretary to the Commission.

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Miss Fern Rold of Tura, underwent an operation at the Woman's Hospital, Gauhati, and has returned to her station.

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Miss Grace Lewison of Jorhat, underwent an operation at the Woman's Hospital, Gauhati, and is now convalescing nicely.

Field Secretary's Itinerary

3rd Quarter of Year

1931
Oct. 28th Arrival in Burma
Oct. 30th to Nov. 2nd—Bassein
Nov. 2nd to Nov. 3rd—Henzada
Nov. 19th to Nov. 21st—Bassein
Nov. 23rd to Nov. 25th—Moulmein
Nov. 27th to Nov. 30th—Toungoo
Dec. 2nd to Dec. 3rd—Maubin
Dec. 3rd—Wakema
Dec. 4th—Myaungmya
1932
Jan. 20th to Jan. 22nd—Tharrawaddy
Thonze

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Mr. Smith suggested to me that as Field Secretary I might give him a brief statement of items of special interest for the month, each month. I am not certain that I can do this satisfactorily, making it of real interest to the Mission, without duplicating what others have said much better. Nevertheless I may have a try at it for a few months.

We were very glad to be among those to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Hanna back to Burma after an absence of about four years. They will be occupied in literary work and plan to do some work at the Seminary next term.

Miss Tingley and Mr. and Mrs. William Cummings were the last arrivals, all of whom are most welcome. The Karens will be glad to have Miss Tingley back in Bassein. Dr. Cummings was down to meet his son, and the daughter-in-law and grand-child whom he had never seen before. It was a great day for the Cummings circle and the Burma Mission and they have our heartiest welcome.

Dr. Grace Seagrave is another whom we welcome back to Burma most heartily. There are so many needs for her that we could well use two or three more Dr. Seagraves.

While I am on this line which brings cheer to our hearts—the reinforcement of our depleted staff—I am sure you will be glad to know that the Board has secured a Dr. and Mrs. Wyatt who have had one term of service in Assam and remained home for five years in a pastorate largely on account of the health of their little boy. It is expected that they will arrive here within the course of a few months and will have opportunity for some language study before he takes over the school next November. Dr. and Mrs. Richardson have done a fine piece of work in Union Hall and it is very fortunate that Dr. Richardson can carry on the school until next November, making such readjustments as are necessary before the new man takes over, so that he will not have the necessity of making those readjustments right on the threshold of his missionary career among the Indians. The financial depression and departmental cuts make it necessary for considerable readjustments to bring expenditure within income in that school for the coming year, and no one do it so well just now as Dr. Richardson.

During the month of January Mr. and Mrs. Sowards sailed for home. We were sorry indeed to see them go. If I know anything about children their little girl will be the delight of the passengers all the way home.

Many have known of the serious attack of cerebral malaria which Mr. Dudrow had and the typhoid of Mrs. Dudrow. For some time both were in the Civil Hospital at Myitkyina and at one time were dangerously ill. We all rejoice that they are up and out again and have paid us a visit in Rangoon, but it will be necessary for them on health grounds to go on furlough this spring.

Different institutions have been having their Sports Day during the month. They were all good, I am sure, but the only one I was able to attend, though I had invitations to all, was the Judson College Sports Day. The arrangements seemed to me splendid. They have a ground with a

grove which has in it ideal possibilities for development for Sports Day events and comfortable seats in the shade. It was altogether a delightful occasion.

The last Reference Committee minutes will not indicate by the amount of printed material sent to you the amount of work it imposed upon us, but it was a long session, leaving a large amount of work in its wake. We are just getting our desks cleared off.

I spent a couple of delightful days at Thonze and Tharrawaddy with the Lattas and Miss Anderson. Their hobby up there is "evangelism." Miss Anderson introduced me to a fine class of inquirers in the High School. Mr. Latta took me out over the grounds for the Rural Reconstruction Unit. I was also greatly interested in the much needed new house rising above the ground at Thonze. For diversion both places were having a serious time with plague and it reminded me of a poem "A little bug will get you some time if you don't look out."

Mr. Smith has just called my attention to the number sailing this year from Burma. It mounts up to the terrible number forty-three. That is a gloomy note to close this short list of items with, but we have to face the facts. Exit till next month at least.

Field Secretary.

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College Reports

Reports of the marks of all men students are mailed to parents in August October and December of each year. Reports for Junior Bachelor and Junior Intermediate students are mailed to parents in March. In some cases it is to be feared that parents do not know that marks are sent to them, so their sons have an excellent opportunity to intercept reports showing low marks. Station missionaries are requested, when talking with parents or guardians of college students, to explain that marks are sent out at the dates mentioned above, and that parents not receiving them should write to the Dean of Men, who will send duplicate reports under registered cover.

J. Russell Andrus.

American School, Taunggyi

Last month I indicated that some plans will be made whereby mothers who so desire may be given more direct help in their work of preparing their children for admission to the school. Mrs. Allen has outlined the following plan, which should be of much help to those who wish to avail themselves of it:—

If a parent can come with a child to Taunggyi I shall be glad to start that child in the first or second grade. It seems advisable for the child, usually, to be six years old or over.

They should be here ready to enter the first Monday in April. It is necessary to have all first grade children enter at the same time. They will remain at the school for instruction until the spring vacation. At the end of this period the mother will be given a box of books containing a course of study for the grade, and the most necessary materials for the year's work.

At the beginning of the next year a check on the previous year's work will be given.

The same procedure will be followed the second year.

At the beginning of the third year the child will be given a check on the second grade work. The child will then enter school for regular work.

Children are ordinarily permitted to enter school at the beginning of the second grade but the above has been devised so that a mother who considers it advisable to send her child to school a year earlier may do so.

Parents of a child expecting to return to America after one year, and wishing to use this course of study, may do so. If a mother is already using a good course of individual instruction such as the "Calvert" or the "Winnetka," she can continue to do so. They are excellent courses.

There will be a charge to cover the actual expenses for the use of this course.

For any further details about the above plan parents should write directly to Mrs. Allen, Taunggyi.

Parents are reminded that the children's party leaves Rangoon for Taunggyi on the evening of the 25th February, thus arriving in Taunggyi on the evening of the 26th.

Geo. D. Josif,

Chairman of Committee.

Arrivals

On January 26th by the S.S. *Ekma* from the Straits, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Cummings and daughter, and Miss Clara Tingley.

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Sailings

On January 28th by the S.S. *Takliwa*, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Sowards, and daughter.

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Death

On Saturday, January 23rd, at Namhkan, Gordon S. Seagrave, Jr. aged 9 years.

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We wish to thank all friends who have expressed their sympathy with us at this time. We feel that all are praying for us, and we appreciate it greatly.

The Seagraves.

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Rural Reconstruction Institute at Pyinmana

April 12–27, 1932.

Over one thousand Village Teachers in Burma are out of employment and many village people have difficulty in finding a means of livelihood. The resources available in Burma to help them will be brought within their reach at this Institute.

Special attention will be given to Poultry Keeping, Gardening and Government agencies for assisting villagers. Also Food Preparation, Home Nursing, Dramatizing. Recreation and Religion will be taught.

Men and women will be welcome. Board will be Rs. 6 for 16 days or 8 annas per day. Half fare on the railroad will be secured as usual for those who write to me giving name and age in advance to secure concessions. Send those who wish to bring hope and new viewpoint back to the villages. Come and join our happy circle.

B. C. Case.

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Burma Baptist Convention

Last October I sent out a letter stating that gifts to the Convention had fallen off more than half during the year, making retrenchment inevitable unless additional gifts were forthcoming. There was a good response to this appeal—so good, that the Managing Committee hesitated about cutting appropriations, and voted to go on as last year until February.

The Convention has been aiding work in thirteen of the Burma Mission Stations besides paying the salaries of five workers in Siam. This requires for the current year Rs. 6635. We have on hand only Rs. 1747, and will get in interest Rs. 2527, a total of Rs. 3274. Nothing has as yet been paid to the workers in Burma for the past four months. The present outlook will not justify the Committee in granting more than half salaries for the current year. Will not each missionary bring this matter before the Associations and churches in his field, and urge everyone to do his best that this work may go on.

H. W. Smith,
Convention Treasurer.

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Pyinmana

Mr. and Mrs. William Cummings have arrived from America to add to our working force for the villages. Mrs. Smith has returned from the Moulmein hospital looking very well and baby David is quite up to the Smith average for size and good disposition. We think he would take a prize for a baby food advertisement.

Start right now and get in your weekly order when the season is at its best. Our shipping days are Mondays and Thursdays. For schools which will take 20 viss or more cabbages at a time we will ship freight prepaid as far as Rangoon at 2½ annas per viss. It is the cheapest green food you can buy for your boarding department.

Government has decided to give a grant of Rs. 10,000 for the Agricultural School next year after all, so we shall be able to carry on the work along much the same lines. Send in the application of boys wishing to come soon as we may not be able to take quite as many as formerly. Please have every one plan to bring Rs. 10 to deposit on his account at the time of admission. Please state also his financial condition if he needs a scholarship. Of course we want those who like work. We have twenty expecting to graduate on March 5th. If you need some to help you in your plans let us know. We get news of those making good who have left us in former years. Mr. Josif sent a picture of such a Burman Christian boy at Eya by the sea at the mouth of the Irrawaddy river.

Brayton C. Case

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A true manifestation of the work of grace is a reproduction of the life of Christ made possible by the indwelling Spirit.

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(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

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Rev. & Mrs. R. B. Longwell.
Rev. & Mrs. A. C. Davis (Language Study).
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Golaghat, Assamese, Immigrants, Mikirs.

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Jorhat, Assamese, Christian Schools.

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Kangpokpi, Tangkhul, Kabui and Kacha Nagas, Kukis, Lepers.

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Nowgong, Assamese, Immigrants, Mikirs.

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